



49651 Shenandoah Circle  
Canton, MI 48187

November 27, 2018

Representative James Lower  
Chair, Local Government Committee  
Michigan House of Representatives

*Via email: Angie Lake, Committee Clerk, [alake@house.mi.gov](mailto:alake@house.mi.gov)*

**Re: Support of SB 741; House Local Government Committee Meeting, November 28, 2018**

Dear Rep. Lower, Committee Members and Bill Sponsor:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information to the committee. Attorneys for Animals, Inc. (AFA) is a Michigan non-profit and 501(c)(3) organization of legal professionals and animal advocates. The organization's Board of Directors voted to support this bill which would prohibit local units of government from enacting or enforcing breed specific legislation (BSL).

We oppose BSL because it is ineffective, not backed by science or genetics, and does not permit individual assessment of dogs based on their actions. The American Veterinary Medical Association is against Breed Specific Legislation, and has posted information on the topic, including links to a study and literature review, and concludes BSL is "not the answer."<sup>i</sup>

This bill would prohibit local units of governments from enacting or enforcing an ordinance, policy, resolution, or rule that regulated a dog based on breed or perceived breed. However, other than breed regulation, local governments may impose additional restrictions or requirements on dogs or dog owners.

Attorneys for Animals urges this Committee to report SB 741 with recommendation.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Beatrice M. Friedlander".

Beatrice M. Friedlander, JD  
President

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.avma.org/public/Pages/Why-Breed-Specific-Legislation-is-not-the-Answer.aspx>

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